

## **Categorical Exclusion Manual Updates March 2008**

### **Policy Changes**

- District Planning Director review and signature are no longer required for CE-2 documents.
- The CE-1 form is no longer necessary when the project clearly qualifies as a CE-2 or higher document.
- The CE-1 form does not need to be signed if the document is a CE-2 or higher document.
- A Section 106 finding of "No Adverse Effect" has been changed to a CE-2 threshold from CE-3.
- A "No Effect" determination from USFWS on Threatened and Endangered Species is now a CE-1 criteria (previously CE-2).
- A requirement for a noise analysis is now a CE-3 criteria rather than CE-4.
- Wetland impacts greater than 1 acre are now a CE-4.
- Public involvement requirements must be met prior to final approval of CE.
- Additional Information (AI) documents should now be formatted as a simple letter rather than as a revision to the original CE document.
- OES no longer needs copies of completed district and LPA projects.

### **Manual Changes**

- Various formatting and spelling corrections were made, and large portions of the manual were reorganized.
- Additional guidance was provided in each section outlining specific information to be used in the CE form.
- Requirements for assessing community impacts, environmental justice and relocations were updated.
- Restrictions on presenting archaeological information in public documents were clarified.
- Format guidance was provided for 4(f) documentation.
- Format guidance was provided for state-funded projects.
- Sections on utilities were removed.
- Instructions for collecting wellhead protection area information were added.
- The area of review for wetlands was clarified.
- Responsibilities for Preliminary Permit Determinations and Environmental Consultation Forms were clarified.
- Appropriate timing on completion of the CE-1 form was clarified.

### **CE-1 Form Changes**

- The signature line was moved to the first page.
- The listing of resources was reordered to match other forms.
- Purpose and Need was moved ahead of the project description.
- Space was provided for other alternatives considered.
- The threshold table was updated to reflect policy changes.

### **CE/EA Form Changes**

- Purpose and Need was moved ahead of the project description.

- The Cultural Resources section was revised to be consistent with the Cultural Resources Manual.
- The air quality section was updated.
- Approval date boxes were provided for wetlands, noise and hazmat reports.
- Space was provided to release the document for public involvement.
- The public involvement section was moved earlier in the document.
- Space was provided to list the name of the INDOT reviewer.
- 4(f) and 6(f) were separated.
- The preliminary permit determination checkboxes were removed.
- A note was added regarding wildlife crossings.

#### Other Attachments

- The glossary was rewritten.
- Karst information was added.
- A sole source aquifer map added
- Early Coordination guidance was added.
- A general OES organizational chart was added.
- The Flood Risk Assessment form was added.
- CE organization guidance was provided.

### **Categorical Exclusion Manual Updates March 2007**

#### CE Manual Changes

- Updated glossary/ acronyms.
- Added Minor Projects Programmatic Agreement to thresholds chart.
- Added Biological Site Evaluation as Attachment 14 to replace the Biological Assessment Form and discussed in the *Environmental Studies and Analysis* section.
- Project Limits defined.
- Changed *Displacement* to *Relocation*.
- Hazardous Material section revised, now incorporates Red Flag Investigations and procedures for Phase I review by OES.
- Added link to Waterway Permitting manual regarding time frames for obtaining permits.
- Added sentence to Early Coordination section to attach a copy of the early coordination letter sent to consulting parties.
- Various format/spelling corrections.
- Page numbers updated to reflect the added material.
- Minor Projects Programmatic Agreement added as Attachment 19.
- In Section E (Air Quality), TIP has been changed to INSTIP. The paragraph regarding the responsibility of conformity has been revised, a discussion regarding projects that add capacity has been added to the *Process* section, and information regarding what to put in the Remarks section of the CE has been revised in the *Information* section.
- In Section C (Cultural Resources), a link has been added for the FHWA guidance website. There is also now a reference to the INDOT Cultural Resources Manual. It is

now stated that any Findings determination documentation should now be sent directly to INDOT.

#### CE Form Changes

- Added Minor Projects Programmatic Agreement to thresholds chart.
- *Potential Hazardous Waste Assessment* changed to *Red Flag Investigation*.
- Guidance added to *Remarks* sections.
- Removed *Section* from header.
- Re-formatted *Roadway Character* section, added comment regarding multiple roadways.
- Added small structures to *Bridges (Remarks)*.
- Removed a question from ROW and Utility Involvement regarding the completion of utility coordination. Added a column to check *unknown*.
- Revised title of Section D Part III.
- Added note to *Section 4(f)/ Section 6(f) Remarks*.
- Added *legal notice* to list of public involvement activities.
- In Section E, the two questions under *Project Level Analysis and Impacts* have been changed.
- Section C:
  - Added notes on *Section 106*
    - Checkboxes added for Minor Projects PA
    - Prehistoric Archaeology and Historic Archaeology replaced with *Archaeology*.
    - Phase I Short Report removed, replaced with Historic Properties Short Report
    - Phase I History/ Architecture Survey Report replaced with History Property Report.
    - Phase I Archaeology Report replaced with Archaeological Records Check/ Review.
    - Phase II Cultural Resources Survey Report removed.
    - Archaeological Phase Ic Survey Report added.
    - Phase II Archaeology Excavation Report replaced with Archaeological Phase II Investigation Report.
    - Phase II Archaeology Data Recovery replaced with Archaeological Phase III Data Recovery.

#### CE Screening Form changes

- Minor Projects Programmatic Agreement added to the Section 106 section of Table 1: CE Level Thresholds.